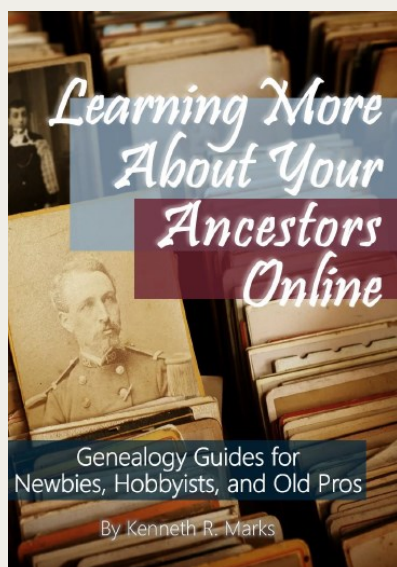


## Bi-Monthly Newsletter November 15, 2021



### Contents for this Issue:

- Articles Published Since Last Issue
- 7 Reasons to Finally Make That Family History Book - Guest Post from Lynn Palermo
- Useful Articles from Other Sources
- 17 Tips for Using Google Search for Genealogy
- What is the Future of Obituaries?
- Beyond the Search Engine: Using Google Databases for Genealogy Research
- Abbreviations to Use When Performing Online Searches



### Coming Soon!

Early on in my genealogical journey, I discovered a variety of techniques that made my searching easier and more successful. In the beginning, I documented those techniques in blog posts on my website. In the last two years, I summarized some of those techniques and other useful genealogy research tips in what I call Quick Sheets, commonly known as Quick Reference Guides. Most were just one page. I have used those tips and techniques blog posts, and the Sheets and Guides as the basis for this book, enhancing each of them significantly as they were consolidated. And several are new.

If you are new to genealogy, this book will serve to introduce you to information that otherwise you might take years to discover on your own.

If you have greater experience, this information can serve as a reminder of things to look for, especially if you are working on a genealogy category that you do not research very often.

**I am looking into providing discounts for Newsletter Subscribers, so make sure that you are subscribed! I will let you know the code.**

→ Please Note: Hot Links are in [BLUE](#)



## Articles Published Since Last Issue

- [FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – November 1-15, 2021](#)
- [Using DPLA for Family History Research](#)
- [Free Online Arkansas Military Records](#)
- [Beyond the Search Engine: Using Google Databases for Genealogy Research](#)
- [17 Tips for Using Google Search for Genealogy](#)
- [1,685 Free United States Online Alumni Collections](#)
- [Free Ohio Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free California Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Massachusetts Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Texas Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free South Carolina Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Louisiana Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Arkansas Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Alabama Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Florida Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free North Carolina Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Mississippi Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Tennessee Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Kentucky Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Ohio Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free North Dakota Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free South Dakota Online Alumni Records](#)
- [Free Iowa Online Alumni Records](#)

## New From The Newspaper Corner

- [52 Newspaper Titles from NDNP Added to DigitalNC](#)
- [Veridian Adds/Updates 50 Titles – November, 2021](#)
- [Advantage Archives Adds 900 Thousand Historical Newspaper Pages – October, 2021](#)
- [Mastering Chronicling America's Advanced Search](#)
- [The National Digital Newspaper Program in 2021](#)
- [GenealogyBank Adds/Updates 73 Titles – November 2021](#)
- [British Newspaper Archive Adds/Updates 86 Titles – October, 2021](#)
- [Find My Past Adds/Updates 118 Historical Newspaper Titles – October, 2021](#)
- [NewspaperARCHIVE Update – October, 2021](#)
- [39,120 Free Online U.S. Historical Newspapers Now Available](#)
- [5,920 Free Western States Online Historical Newspaper Titles Available to Search](#)
- [210 Free Mid Atlantic States Online Historical Newspaper Titles Added](#)
- [580 Free Mid West States Online Historical Newspaper Titles Added](#)
- [580 Free Southern States Online Historical Newspaper Titles Added](#)
- [NY State Historical Newspapers Adds/Updates 18 Titles – November, 2021](#)
- [110 Free New England States Online Historical Newspaper Titles Added](#)

If you are a regular reader or follower of The Ancestor Hunt, then you likely know that I am a big proponent of writing our family history. You've seen this image, probably a number of times, or this saying: "If we don't write our family history, who will?" And you might have noticed that on the next to last page there are 4 distinct products that I have tried and reviewed, all with one thing in common - they are products and services that assist you in documenting your own life, as well as those of your ancestors.

I have asked Lynn Palermo to chime in on writing one's history. She is a writer who I know via frequent interactions over the years.

Although I haven't attended her free webinar or took part in her Family History Writing Studio Master Class, I intend to in 2022. I am sure that you could greatly benefit from her knowledge.

In the next two pages are some tidbits of what she teaches and offers, including a free webinar and a Story Starter Workbook.

Help Your Ancestors Live Forever

Write Your Family History







# 7 Reasons to Finally Make that Family History Book

WRITTEN BY LYNN PALERMO



## 1. You've been researching for 20+ years and have a lot of information.

Okay, you have been researching a long time, and yes, you're not done. But let's be realistic, you will never be. But it's time to take what you have and start organizing into a shareable format for your family. It's doing nobody any good spread across boxes, computer, usb sticks and software programs.

## 2. Your kids don't want your genealogy stuff.

Your children have shown no interest in your genealogy stuff so why should you build a family history book? Perhaps they haven't shown any interest because you haven't shared their family history with them in an interesting and engaging format. Family history books and stories have a way of helping your readers make an emotional connection with their ancestors.

## 3. Your research is a pile of papers and only makes sense to you.

That means it's time to format it into a book so someone else can understand it. Your family will never connect with a pile of stuff. Files of papers in boxes don't interest anyone, well unless you're a genealogist. Don't risk having all your genealogy end up in the trash bin. Organise it into a book that will be treasured by your descendants for years to come.



LYNN PALERMO

THE FAMILY HISTORY  
*Writing Studio*



Free Weekly Video Lesson



Register

## Family History Writing Studio Masterclass

Turn your genealogy research into [shareable stories](#)



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Our Courses



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Free Webinar  
How to Build a Family History Book

## What's In the Studio?

#### 4. You want to leave your family history in a format your kids will cherish.

A family history book is an excellent opportunity to leave your family their history in a beautiful book they will love for generations to come. Nothing is more appealing to family members than a book that sums up their legacy in a nice, neat package. Something they can pass on for generations to come.

#### 5. You want your family to know their ancestors.

A family history book is a perfect vehicle to share your ancestor's documents, pictures, and stories. Your family can't connect with their ancestors through just a picture or a document, bring them all together in a heirloom family history book, a book that will appeal to all age levels.

#### 6. It adds a new skill to your genealogy toolbox.

It's time to learn a new skill. Learning to create and write your family history stories is an exciting extension of your genealogy journey. It's a new skill that you should be adding to your genealogy toolbox. Learning to create and write a family history book can help you to examine your family history deeper while at the same time offering you a new skill and a new sense of motivation.

#### 7. You want to leave a legacy that reflects your genealogy work.

We've spent the better part of our lives researching our family history. It's been our passion, why not create something beautiful that will allow you to share your love, and the fruits of your labour. Your family history book will not only represent your ancestor's legacy but your legacy as a passionate genealogist.

Don't put off building your **Heirloom** book any longer. It's time.

*Lyn Rae*

### WINTER WORKSHOPS FOR THE FAMILY HISTORY WRITER



CRAFTING YOUR ANCESTOR'S  
CHARACTER: FROM RESEARCH  
TO STORY

BOOK NOW



PLOTTING A FAMILY HISTORY  
STORY: STEP-BY-STEP EXERCISES

BOOK NOW

[Learn More](#)

### Create a Coffee-Table Style Family History Book

We believe family history should  
be seen and read not buried in a box

## Heirloom

[Explore the  
Templates](#)



The Family History  
Writing Studio Presents.

## THE STORY STARTER WORKBOOK

— WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? —



## Heirloom Memory Books

Easy to Make and Fun to Give  
Available Only Until Dec 15, 2021

\*Free to Heirloom Premium Members\*





## Useful Articles from Other Sources

Looking for a Genealogy Event?

- [Remember to Check Out Conference Keeper!](#)

Researching New England Ancestors?

- [Genealogical Gold in Town Annual Reports](#)

Doing Cemetery Research?

- [How to Find a Grave in a Cemetery](#)

Looking for a Female Ancestor?

- [Can't Find Your Great Grandmother? 3 Places You May Not Have Looked \(Yet\)](#)



## New Website Navigation

There are 4 Menu Items

[Home](#) [Resources](#) ▾ [Blog](#) [More](#) ▾

The Resources Menu item includes all 20 Categories of Links (e.g., Newspapers, Yearbooks, Directories, etc.), Plus the By Location Feature

The More Menu Item includes: Recent Articles, Quicksheets, Newsletters, Subscribe, About, Contact, and Tools

In the Footer, there is a Search bar, Access to Blog Posts and Article Archives, and a New Category feature. Every Blog Post will be assigned at least one category.

WHAT I AM WORKING ON IN NOVEMBER

FINISH CEMETERY AND BURIAL RECORDS AND MILITARY RECORDS CATEGORIES

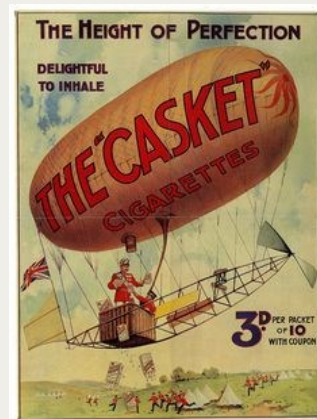
START TAX RECORDS CATEGORY RESEARCH

PUBLISH BOOK

SHARE FREE ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS ONLINE NEWSPAPER COLLECTIONS

EAT A TON OF TURKEY AND CRANBERRY SAUCE

## Quirky Old Newspaper Ad



FIND *your* ANCESTORS  
Newspapers and more  
(1690 to today)

[Search Now](#)



GENEALOGYBANK



## What is the Future of Obituaries?

Recently, I started thinking about the future of obituaries – in my view, one of the richest pieces of information that a genealogist can make use of in their research. For my personal genealogy research, several breakthroughs came about solely because of newspaper obituaries that I'd found.

Obviously, the methods of preparing and publishing obituaries are changing quickly. A simplistic view might be – “What’s the Big Deal?” Instead of paper, they are now online.

I’m not so sure there is a simple answer. Here are my thoughts:

### **Publishing Newspaper Obituaries and Online Newspaper Obituaries**

Physical newspaper obituaries are costly. So besides the burial and funeral expenses, a newspaper obituary just adds to the expense.

*From National Cremation:*

“An average obituary can easily be \$200.00-500.00. Costs vary by publication. Newspapers charge by the line and can average \$450 for a complete obituary. The average obituary cost begins at \$200.00 and increases due to the amount of content, including a photograph and the length of the obituary.”

*From Legacy.com:*

A recent study they performed shows that most people seeking to publish a newspaper obituary have no clue how much they cost. See the results of their study – [Obituaries: The Gap Between Newspaper Pricing Trends & Consumer Expectations](#)

*From BeyondTheDash.com:*

In their article, they discuss published newspaper obituaries and published online obituaries. The complete article is at: [How Much Does an Obituary Cost?](#)

The good news about publishing an obituary via an online newspaper is that despite the cost, it can be inexpensive enough that one can author a longer obituary than you might if it was intended for an obituary that would actually be published in the physical newspaper.

### **So, as genealogy researchers, where does that leave us in the future in order to find Obituaries?**

There will still be published newspaper obituaries, whether in a physical newspaper and/or in the online version of their newspaper.

### **Where Can I Find Published Newspaper Obituaries?**

The old-fashioned way – the primary methods we use now, such as searching old newspapers, or specialty obituary web pages, or obituary indexes, often prepared by libraries and genealogical societies. For free resources, check out the [Newspaper Links](#) Page, and the [Obituaries](#) Page on this website.

### **Where Can I Find Online Obituaries?**

This is where it gets interesting. They are all over the place. Here are the options:

- Individual online newspaper websites
- Funeral Home websites
- Free aggregators like Legacy.com, who on their website state that they partner with 1,500 newspaper websites, and 3,500 funeral homes. There are quite a few aggregators.
- Individual “remembrance” and other online obituary sites where one can post a recently deceased relative. I have personally made use of one of these. These are typically not aggregated.
- Schlock sites who gather up obituaries from a bunch of sources and publish them, but they really are a bait and switch because they are simply trying to get you to click on their ads. And their web pages are incredibly ugly and busy and full of ads.
- Aggregators who charge a few bucks for a one time or subscription access to their posted obituaries.

So, in the future, where do we find all these online obituaries? The answer seems to be incredibly easy, and the future seems to be bright.

### **To find an online obituary or memorial, use Google (or your favorite search engine). It works!**

I have personally used this technique successfully for recently departed relatives and friends. There is a caveat of course – what happens 30 years from now? These online companies need to stay in business. There is always the Wayback Machine I guess.

See? Not so easy.





## Beyond the Search Engine: Using Google Databases for Genealogy Research

Google has a number of databases and functions that we can search and/or use, such as Google Books, Google Scholar and others that are useful to us as genealogy researchers. Here is an overview of some of these databases and functions:

- **Google Books** has a seemingly never ending supply of digitized books. And there is an ample amount of old books that can be used in your genealogy research. Generally, there are two types of entries: books that are digitized and full text of the entire book is available online, and books where only partial sections or pages are available, and only snippets of your resultant search results provide useful information. The URL is <https://books.google.com/>
- **Google Patents** presents a search engine to find old patents from around the world. Personally, I found that five of my ancestors held patents, much to my surprise, and several of them were from the 1800s! The URL is <https://patents.google.com/>
- **Google Cache** provides the ability to see a previous version of a web page. This is particularly useful when you get a 404 Error and/or a "File Not Found" page when going to a website. Just enter "cache:" in front (do not enter the quotes) of the desired webpages URL, and it will take you to the previous version.
- **Google News Archive** unfortunately is no longer adding new titles to its collection, but it still is searchable. You can see the list of over 1,400 titles and search the collection at this URL: <https://news.google.com/newspapers?hl=en>
- **Google Scholar** (From Google): provides a simple way to broadly search for scholarly literature. From one place, you can search across many disciplines and sources: articles, theses, books, abstracts and court opinions, from academic publishers, professional societies, online repositories, universities and other web sites. The URL is <https://scholar.google.com/>
- **Google Images** has over 28 Billion images in its database. Similar search functions as in generic Google Search are available. There also is a reverse image search. This is particularly useful for genealogists as it may find other researchers who have the same or similar photo as that of your ancestor that you are performing the reverse image search for or even an image base somewhere with pertinent photos.. The URL is <https://www.google.com/imghp?hl=en>
- **Google Maps and Google Earth** are particularly useful for genealogists as we can see visually what a house, business, or other property looks like. Also creating custom maps of our ancestors residences can also provide us with genealogical clues. The URLs are <https://www.google.com/maps/> and <https://earth.google.com/web/>
- **Google Translate** is very useful when attempting to convert written documents, letters, or other material from the language of the "old country" to current language. There are over 100 languages available. The URL is <https://translate.google.com/>
- **Google Alerts** is an excellent resource for genealogy researchers. It is like having a constant search running all the time. It won't necessarily search inside databases or their records, but if a mention of a person, surname, or whatever else you set the Alert up for occurs, you will be sent an email. It can be your secret weapon! The URL is <https://www.google.com/alerts>



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## Abbreviations to Use When Performing Online Searches

- Eliz for Elizabeth
- Wm for William
- Sgt for Sergeant
- Ave for Avenue
- Corp for Corporation
- Jno for John
- St for Street
- NYC for New York City
- Jos for Joseph
- Jas for James
- Margt for Margaret
- Saml for Samuel
- Ct for Court
- Inc for Incorporated
- Theo for Theodore
- Capt for Captain
- Pl for Place
- Co for Company
- Pres for President
- Ln for Lane
- Col for Colonel
- Chas for Charles
- Benj for Benjamin
- Cpl for Corporal
- Geo for George
- Robt for Robert
- Thos for Thomas
- Genl for General
- Danl for Daniel
- Sar for Sarah

### Hit a Brick Wall? Need Help?

Sometimes, we need to call in an expert, and yes, we may have to pay a few bucks, but it's worth it.

Get some help from

[Trace.com](https://www.trace.com)



**Risk-free genealogy research  
from the most talented  
professionals on Earth**

Stop overpaying researchers you don't know or who don't have the specific skills you need. Our process and network give you the best price with high-quality results.



## 17 Tips for Using Google Search for Genealogy

Normally when people think of Google, they think of the search engine. As genealogy researchers, it is imperative that we learn to use the Google search engine effectively, since it can help us find ancestors, relevant documents, and many more pertinent things to help find our ancestors.

### Using the Google Search Engine Effectively for Genealogy Research:

- A basic search in Google requires us to enter a search criteria in the Search box. This can be something simple such as a full name or surname. Or a much more complicated entry. When using multiple words in the criteria it is assumed to be a Boolean AND. For example, *Word1 Word2 Word3* as your search criteria means that all words must appear in order to provide a positive search result.
- If you are searching for a multi-word phrase that must appear as the phrase, simply, put double quotes before and after the phrase. For example, *"Word1 Word2 Word3"*
- If you wish to exclude a word from your search, simply put a minus sign before the word that you wish to exclude. For example, *John Dulles -Foster*
- Want to include synonyms in your search? Just place a tilde symbol in front of the word that you are looking for a synonym. For example *Word1 ~Word2*
- To search within a specific site, enter the word *site:* in front of the url of the site. For example *site:youtube.com*
- To exclude results from a specific site because you have already searched it or it dominates the results and you don't wish to see results from that site, just put a minus sign in front of the site term. In our previous example where you want to exclude results from YouTube, just enter *-site:youtube.com*
- Use the OR operator if you wish to include multiple words or phrases in a search. For example *Lincoln OR "Emancipation Proclamation"*
- Although Google's searches with multiple words assume an AND operation, you can use the AND operator. This is useful when you have a more complicated criteria that has a combination of OR and AND operations in your search criteria.
- Wildcard searches can be performed by entering an asterisk (\*) in your search criteria.
- To return a prior version of a web page enter *cache:xyz.com*. It is different from the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine. Google presents just the most recent version of a web page, whereas the Wayback Machine presents multiple versions.
- To restrict results to specific filetypes, enter your criteria as follows: *searchword filetype pdf*
- To find results from related websites enter *related:website1.com*
- To find results for a search for a word within the title, enter *intitle:cemetery*
- To find results for multiple words that appear within the title, enter *allintitle:cemetery burial*
- To find results for a word (or text string) that appears in a url, enter *allinurl:textstring*
- To perform a proximity search, i.e. finding words within a specified number of words from one another, use the AROUND function. For example, *Word1 AROUND(5) Word2* finds occurrences where Word1 is within 5 words from Word2
- To restrict results to a range of years, enter *[year1]..[year2] in your search criteria*



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## Help Your Ancestors Live Forever - Write Your Family History And Write Your Own History While You're At It

One of my goals in my personal genealogy is to make sure that my ancestors are remembered. Many had no descendants, so absolutely no one alive remembers them. That's sad to me, which is why I created a couple of family history websites. But recently I have been seeking even better ways to memorialize their lives. Their stories are important to be documented, which might explain why I am such a fan of newspaper research.

In any case, here are a few tools that I have discovered that provide a unique means to memorialize our ancestors.

And guess what? We need to produce our own autobiographies. We aren't getting any younger and memories do fade.



### Whoowe

Produce an online history easily with text, video, and audio from online questions on your phone. You can contribute content in minute or several minute increments.

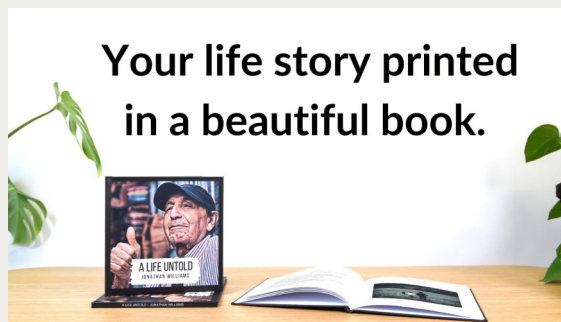
Whoowe is available from the AppStore and Google Play. Info at [whoowe.com](http://whoowe.com) Try it out for free. Discount coupon for readers coming soon.



### StorySpot

Produce an online memorial with text, video, timelines, photos, favorite songs, and audio, and produce an optional book. Great for family reunions also

Available at [www.storystop.com](http://www.storystop.com). Try it out for free. 25% discount available by using "ANCESTOR" as coupon code.



### A Life Untold

Produce an online history easily with text, video, and audio from online questions. Proceed at your own pace, and add questions if you like. Very easy to use.

Available at [A Life Untold](http://A Life Untold). Try it out. 10% discount available by using "HUNT as coupon code.

### Record Your Autobiography With



### AUDIOBIOGRAPHY

### Audiobiography

They say the closest you can feel to someone without touching them, is hearing their voice. Produce an online autobiography or memorial with audio; add photos and coordinate with a book.

Available at [Audiobiography](http://Audiobiography). Try it out. 10% discount available by using "HUNT as coupon code.

"The Ancestor Hunt" is an affiliate for several of these companies and may receive a small commission should you purchase through this newsletter or the website and/or if you use the coupon codes mentioned above.



## Last But Not Least

### Newly Completed States with All Categories Created

- [7,885 Free Online New York Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [2,080 Free Online New Hampshire Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [2,429 Free Online Vermont Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [893 Free Online South Dakota Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [760 Free Online Rhode Island Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [2,009 Free Online Washington Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [803 Free Online Wyoming Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [521 Free Online Nevada Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [483 Free Online District of Columbia Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [6,952 Free Online Texas Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [834 Free Online North Dakota Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [975 Free Online New Mexico Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [1,968 Free Online Maryland Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [1,643 Free Online Mississippi Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [4,256 Free Online Kentucky Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [560 Free Online Nova Scotia Collections Available Now in 6 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [4,303 Free Online Ontario Collections Available Now in 6 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [268 Free Online Newfoundland and Labrador Collections Available Now in 6 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [317 Free Online New Brunswick Collections Available Now in 6 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [3,010 Free Online Minnesota Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [3,959 Free Online Michigan Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [519 Free Online Manitoba Collections Available Now in 6 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [2,057 Free Online Alberta Collections Available Now in 6 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [176 Free Online Prince Edward Island Collections Available Now in 6 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [2,230 Free Online New Jersey Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)
- [4,735 Free Online Missouri Collections Available Now in 19 Genealogy Record Categories](#)

### The Ancestor Hunt Research Link Categories:

- |                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| • Newspapers                  | • Mortuary Records  |
| • Obituaries                  | • Immigration       |
| • BMD Records                 | • Church Records    |
| • Directories                 | • School Records    |
| • Photos                      | • Voter Lists       |
| • Yearbooks                   | • Coroner Records   |
| • Divorce Records             | • Probate and Wills |
| • Naturalizations             | • Alumni Records    |
| • Cemetery and Burial Records | • Birth Records     |
| • Marriage Records            | • Death Records     |

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